

LOUISIANA SEED COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2008

10:00 a.m.

Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Building

LDAF Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Fred Bass, Confidential Assistant to Commissioner Mike Strain.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Ms. Haydel

The following members or their Designees were present: Mr. Fred Bass, Designee for Commissioner Mike Strain; Dr. David Boethel, representing Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. Paul Coreil, representing Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service; Mr. Kyle McCann, Designee for Mr. Ronnie Anderson, Louisiana Farm Bureau Association; Mr. Michael Hensgens, Designee for the Louisiana Seedsmen's Association. All Members or their Designees were present.

Others Present: Todd Parker, Assistant Commissioner of AES; Eric Gates, LDAF Seed Programs; Lester Cannon, LDAF Seed Programs; Penny Haydel, LDAF Seed Programs; Mr. Morris Houck Jr., Natural Resources Conservation Service.

A quorum was declared.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to elect Commissioner Mike Strain as Chairman of the Commission. Dr. David Boethel seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Motion: Mr. Kyle McCann made a motion to approve Mr. Eric Gates as Director of the Seed Commission Programs and Mr. Lester Cannon as the Assistant Director of the Seed Commission Programs. Mr. Michael Hensgens seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to approve the minutes from December 05, 2007 Louisiana Seed Commission Meeting. Dr. David Boethel seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Adopt the Notice-of-Intent to Change the Application Deadline for Certified Tissue Culture Sugarcane

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to adopt the Application Deadline Change for Certified Tissue Culture Sugarcane. Dr. David Boethel seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adopt the Notice-of-Intent Requiring GPS Coordinates for all Fields Applied for Certification

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to adopt the GPS Coordinates Requirements for all fields petitioned for Certification. Dr. David Boethel seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Germination Tolerance Table

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to authorize a Notice-of-Intent addressing the new Germination Tolerance Table. Mr. Kyle McCann seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Seed Certification Application Fee Timetable

Mr. Lester Cannon informed the Commission members that the wording on the certification application required clarification. The wording on the certification application states that, "The application fee for certification shall be \$23 for each crop." Mr. Lester Cannon suggested that the wording on the certification application state, "The application fee for certification shall be \$23 for each variety, per producer, one variety per application."

Motion: Mr. Michael Hensgens made a motion to authorize a Notice-of-Intent addressing the new wording for the Seed Certification Application. Dr. David Boethel seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Seed Certification Fee Timetable

Mr. Lester Cannon proposed that the wording of §143-D "Fees", the third sentence should state; "Fees are due upon submitting a certified sample to the Seed Testing Laboratory."

Motion: Mr. Kyle McCann made the motion to authorize a Notice-of-Intent addressing when certification fees are due. Mr. Michael Hensgens seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Louisiana Native Plant Initiative

Mr. Morris Houck, Jr. addressed the Commission members regarding Warm Season Grasses Seed Certification Standards and Louisiana Native Plant Material Certification Standards. After a lengthy discussion among the Commission members it was decided that more information is needed before addressing this issue further.

GMO Rice Issue

Mr. Lester Cannon introduced the GMO Rice issue. The issue was discussed by the Commission Members. It was decided that input should be obtained from other rice growing states, mills and industry prior to the Commission making a decision on regulations for the 2009 crop year. It was decided that more information would be obtained and made available to the Commission Members at a subsequent meeting.

ADJOURN